



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 24, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Mr. President:

We write to you today to respectfully request that every effort be made to address critical human rights and humanitarian imperatives involving Afghans at risk. There is no question that the U.S. military withdrawal and the Taliban assumption of authority has created enormous risks to hundreds of thousands of Afghans.

While the Taliban is offering reassurances to eschew revenge and respect women's rights, there is much skepticism due to the Taliban's long record of egregious, systematic, and widespread violations of human rights. As recently as last week, the United Nations (UN) cited several reports of serious abuses, including summary killings, and a UN spokesperson noted that "women are already being killed and shot for breaching rules."

Under these circumstances, we urge you to help evacuate Afghans targeted by the Taliban. For as long possible, U.S. troops deploying to Kabul should remain in place beyond the embassy evacuation to scale up flights to finish the airlift of special immigrant visa holders and to facilitate charter evacuation flights for Afghan women and human rights activists, journalists, and religious and ethnic minorities, all of whom will face grave danger without immediate assistance.

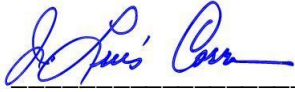
Also essential is the establishment of a humanitarian corridor to facilitate the flight for those Afghans at risk who will not be able to depart by air.

Additionally, we ask that the administration engage the Afghan diaspora community on these critical issues. Many Afghan families in diaspora are trying to find ways to help sponsor relatives who are in Afghanistan right now, but the process has been unclear and bureaucratic. This community could serve as a critical partner and asset to the administration.

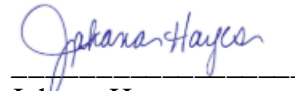
The United States must act swiftly to save lives. Afghans are dying trying to board flights, and there are reports that women of the country would rather die than face rule under the Taliban.

Swift action is critical to stop this dire situation. The United States and the rest of the world must not turn our backs on the civilians who are trying to flee the country amid threats to their lives.

Sincerely,



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress




Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



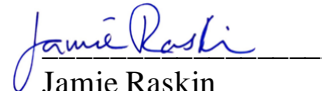
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



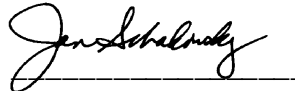
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



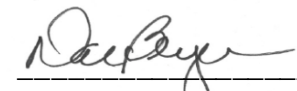
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



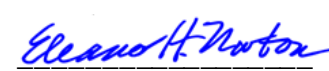
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Don Beyer
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



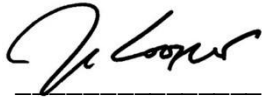
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



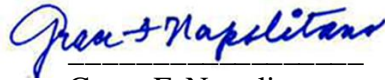
Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



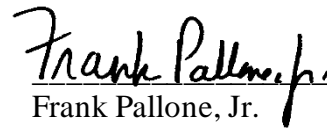
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
Member of Congress



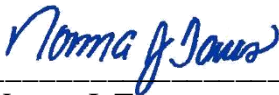
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



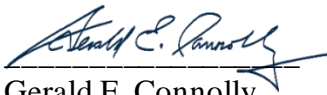
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



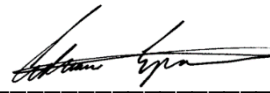
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

/s/
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

/s/

Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress

/s/

André Carson
Member of Congress



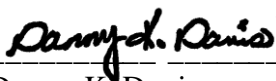
Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

/s/

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



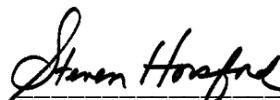
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



David E. Price
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress



Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress